685 such, deviates from the normal pattern of cases dealt with by the cus-
627 tomary law in the conventional way. The men selected by the Geneishat
695 included, in addition to Rabbu and his father Hakim, Shei'eb and his
613 three brothers, Hakim's cousin Samsoun and his four brothers and Hakim's
uncle Sheikh Qudura and his sons. The date of the oath was set for June
tenth. Two days before, the two parties involved in the dispute invited
a number of the important people of other tribal segments in the area to
[492] be witnesses to the oath. All involved started to travel to the tomb of
[494] Sidi Dmain, some on donkeys, others by bus or train. At six o'clock on
[497] the morning of the oath everybody gathered in the courtyard outside the
[778] tomb of the saint. The granddaughter of the saint works as a mediator
[787] between the spirit of her grandfather and his followers announced that
[796] the saint was ready for the oath and everybody went inside preparing for
the oath. Before the oath was taken the Geneishat asked Hakim if his men
and the fourteen men they had chosen were present and Hakim said they
were. Since the Geneishat were from a different tribal segment and
lived outside the area, they had no personal knowledge of most of the
[212] men who were to take the oath. Knowing the reputation of Hakim they
asked the men to present their identification cards to check them against
[749] the list they had. At that time Hakim said that some of the men didn't
have identification cards because they had not applied for aid from the
World Food Program. Then the Geneishat demanded that those without cards
should be identified by members of other tribal segments who had come as
witnesses. Hakim refused and then admitted that one of the men was ab-
sent and that he had put another in place of him. But when the Geneishat
learned that the one to be absent was Sheikh Qudura, they insisted that